



**May/June
2004**

Eastern Express

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System

Our guest writer of the lead article in this month's *Eastern Express* is Matthew Rohde. Matt works in the library at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and is pursuing his degree in library science. Matt is a former president of the Eastern Library System Board and is currently an alternate. Matt is working on a 50-hour internship with ELS.

Why I Want to be a Librarian

I have always loved books; from the moment I saw my first library at Laura Dodge Elementary (Omaha Public Schools) the urge to read was ignited. When I left Dodge school, I had read everything on the fiction shelves. When I finished high school, I should have gone right to college for something - anything to do with books. But no, I went to college thinking I wanted to be an accountant. That didn't work out.

I wandered for several years before I came to work at the University of Nebraska at Omaha in the library. I

have been to book parties at the top of the World Trade Center, Tavern on the Green, the Four Seasons in New York; and met many literary luminaries: Robert Ludlum, Robert Parker, Tom Clancy, Kurt Vonnegut Jr., Eric Carle, Ann Rice, Linda McCartney (and her famous hubby) just to name a few. What I learned from them can be summed up by something I heard Sue Grafton say - "we are just people like you who happen to write books for a living." My experience has taught me one thing; that I want to help people find the information they need. Or as we said in the book business - to put the right book in the right persons hand at the right moment.

At 45 years old I was encouraged to go back to school. I started slow; I took an on-line course from Wayne State College on how to do research. This has been one of the most valuable courses I have ever taken. I highly recommend this course or a course like it, for anyone re-entering the college sphere. Many people encouraged me to go on and finish my Undergraduate degree. So then I jumped into my first semester with two upper level courses - for the first six weeks I thought I was insane. Once things shifted into gear, everything started to happen fast. I have completed, at this point 100 hours

of the required 125 needed to graduate. I am starting my practicum now, and will complete it this summer. Once I have completed my other coursework and graduate, I really want to go on to "Graduate School." Big words for me, my best estimate of "finishing" is by the age of 51 or 52. That thought can be daunting, but just thinking about going back to school gave

me an anxiety attack; I did it anyway. I have found some of the most wonderful people at UNO; people who are involved in the Missouri satellite program, people working on a media specialist endorsement for their teaching certificate, people like me who are working on their undergraduate degrees, and people who have a real gift teaching all of us.

The professors in the College of Education and in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service departments have given of their time and expertise to teach those of us who really want to learn.



"Our chance for advancement is at hand. This is your opportunity to learn.....take it, I did."

I have heard all of the predictions of where our profession is going. One might hear that many of our colleagues will retire soon or that libraries are more important than ever before; and I believe that all of those things are true. What can I do about it? I can go on and become the person I always wanted to be; a person who can put the right resource into the hands of the right person at the right time, and I can try to encourage others to do the same. You could do it too!

Our chance for advancement is at hand. If you wish you can enroll, at Metropolitan Community College in the new Para-professional program, or at UNO as an undergraduate in education, or in the college of Public Affairs and Community Service, or as a graduate student taking classes from the University of Missouri Columbia at UNO. This is your opportunity to learn about being a "librarian". Take it, I did.



[Conference Report from Matt Rohde]

Where to start? The American Association for Higher Education, 2004 Learning to Change Conference (AAHE 2004), took place March 31—April 4 in San Diego, California. I looked at this as an opportunity to expand my knowledge of service learning. I helped present a University of Nebraska at Omaha service learning project with Dr. Rebecca Pasco from the College of Education, Celeste Mitchell who represented Dr. David Corbin and the College of Health Physical Education and Recreation, and Marilyn Leach from the Center for Faculty Development. This is a project I took part in during some of my Library Science coursework at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

In this project nine classmates and I went to visit the Sienna/Francis House here in Omaha. We met with the director Mike Saklar and learned what some of the needs of the homeless might be. My classmates and I then went out into the community to find free or inexpensive educational or recreational activities for families in need. We also looked for activities that others on limited incomes might do as well. We looked for things that are handicapped accessible, that are on a bus line, that would be of interest to a broad range of people and that would be at least semi-permanent activities. Dr. Corbin's and Dr. Pasco's students worked to make sure that the pamphlets

were distributed throughout the Omaha metro community. I really enjoyed this project and appreciated the opportunity to participate.

San Diego is a city of wonders. It has a population of three million people but the airport has only one runway (a short one at that.) Sea lions and wildlife were abundant. In Omaha you have to pay to see bird of paradise plants, in San Diego they grow everywhere. The city has a rich cultural life and a diverse population to match.

As a child growing up I had the opportunity to be a cub scout and a boy scout. The leaders of those groups taught me that helping others was not just a good deed, but a responsibility. Educators, neighbors, my parents, my grandmothers, and scout leaders encouraged me to continue to help others whenever possible. I have been active in several non-profit groups and have learned a wonderful lesson. That lesson is that whenever I help someone else, I receive far more than I could ever give. As a student I see Service Learning as an opportunity to find new ideas to help others here in Omaha. I also see this as a way for the University of Nebraska at Omaha to provide leadership in our Community, and to reach people outside of our area. Helping others should be the first thing we think of when we have the opportunity—if we do not help—who will?

Congratulations to:

- Marty McGee, McGoogan Library of Medicine
- Casey Kralik, Joslyn Art Reference Library
- Jodene Glaesemann, Nebraska Library Commission
- Susan Franklin, Republican Valley Library System

They are graduating with their MLS degrees on May 14 from the University of Missouri at Columbia. The library profession will be enriched with the addition of these librarians.

The Nebraska Library Association and the Nebraska Educational Media Association invited you to attend **“Virtual Places, Physical Spaces—Nebraska Libraries Now”** on October 6-8, 2004, at the joint NLA/NEMA 2004 Conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Midtown and Howard Johnson Riverside Inn in Grand Island. For more information visit the conference web site at:

www.papillion.ne.us/~NLA2004/

Fine Wine & Company

Wines from France, New Zealand, Germany, Italy and Oregon were sampled by friends and supporters of the Eastern Library System at the first wine tasting fund raiser on April 11 at the Clubhouse Inn in Omaha. Chris Piper from Meier's Cork n' Bottle in Lincoln explained what to look for and told us the process as each wine was sampled. Music was provided by Kenny Oyer and Al Anderson and added to a fun evening. Thanks to Kenny and Al for their music and to Becky Pasco, Mike and Denise Lawver and Lori Long for making all the arrangements for a sparkling evening. *(My favorite was the 1999 Maximin Grunghausen Herrenberg Riesling Kabinett from Mosel, Germany. KT)*



Kenny Oyer and Al Anderson of "Kenny O" provided wonderful music.



A beautiful setting, great wine, good company.

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We reserve the right to edit or refuse all contributions. **Editor:** Nancy Meyer

ISSN # 1064-3486



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Book Reviews

by Joan Chesley
Keene Memorial Library, Fremont



Quiet by Paul Bright, illustrated by Guy Parker-Rees. Orchard Books, 0-439-54512-9. Don't you just love those "read-alouds) in which you can legally yell and growl in very un-library-like voices? Her is a book for those occasions. Mama and Papa Lion want Baby Leo to take a nap but it is just too noisy in the jungle. Being the king of all the animals and the most ferocious animal in the jungle, Papa Lion can roar everyone quiet, and so he does. "If anyone makes a noise and wakes up Leo, I will gobble you up!" he threatens. The kids will enjoy the noise, the threats, and laugh at what finally does wake up Leo.

The Three Little Dinosaurs written and illustrated by Jim Harris. Pelican Publishing Company, 2000, 1-56554-371-8. Although this book is a 2000 copy-right, I found it at Borders a month ago and have almost worn it out reading it. Like its counterpart with the pigs and the wolf, there were three little dinosaurs being pursued by a big bad hungry Tyrannosaurus Rex. T-Rex was starving for pig, or since pigs weren't around yet, he was hungry for some nice tasty dinosaurs. The little dinos are a cheeky group making very un-respectful comments about T-Rex which only drive him on to think of more and better ways to enjoy a triple dinoburger. The surprising and satisfactory ending leaves the T-Rex looking for a quieter life, maybe reading? Or fishing?

Superdog, The Heart of a Hero by Carolyn Buehner, illustrated by Mark Beuhner. Harper Collins, 0-063-623620-7. Just because you're little doesn't mean you can't be a hero. Just because you're little doesn't mean you can't have big dreams. Dexter is just a little dog, so little that even Clevis, the local tomcat, bullies him. Then Dexter decides to make some changes in his life. He begins a rigorous training routine. He exercises and trains hard, and when his Hero suit arrives, Dexter finds that he can be a hero. Dexter (Superdog) even saves his arch enemy, Clevis. A satisfying story for the smallest of us.

Baby Danced the Polka by Karen Beaumont, illustrated by Jennifer Plecas. Dial, 0-8037-2587-6. Baby's dancing the polka in this little book just right for a toddler. Baby dances with all kinds of creatures that can be found with the lift-up flap. The story is all in silly rhymes, with lots of laughs to go around. Finally Baby goes to sleep after he has worn everyone down, but even in his sleep, polka parties are dancing in his head.

Book Reviews from the UNO Young Adult Booklist

Electric Girl Vol. 1 by Michael Brennan (Graphic Novel) This is a story about a girl and her dog, her invisible gremlin friend, and her ability to conduct electricity with her bare hands! Virginia, the electric girl, can release electricity from her body at will. That's the good news. The bad news is that her friend is Oogleeoog, an invisible gremlin who is always making trouble! This book contains the stories from the first four issues of the *Electric Girl* comic book.

The Beast by Walter Dean Myers (Realistic Fiction) High-school senior Spoon hopes to marry his girlfriend, Gabi, an aspiring poet with "a smile that pleases the angels," and he hates to leave her for a year to attend a Connecticut prep school. During the fall, Gabi's letters become infrequent, and when Spoon returns home for the holidays, he is heartbroken to discover that she has begun to use "the beast" - drugs. In his latest novel, Myers tells a powerful story of first love and the profound ways that drugs touch everyone. "If Gabi could loose her way, so could I." Spoon narrates in a voice that is artistic and colloquial, his thoughts tumbling out as poetry, and readers may miss the precise sense of some passages. But Myers captures the disorientation of living between worlds, where home is "the shame, but not the same," and Spoon's sharp observations about race and love will resonate deeply with teens, as will his ambivalence about the futures. "I don't know, I'm not even sure what there is to know."

Announcements

Storytelling, Poetry & Prose

You are invited to enjoy an informal evening of storytelling, poetry & prose at Norfolk Public Library on Friday, July 30 at 7:30 p.m. If you have a story to tell, a poem to recite, or a piece of prose to read bring it along or just relax and enjoy the performances. For more information, contact Karen or Marci, 402-844-2100.



The Norfolk Public Library's 10th Annual Literature Festival will be held on Saturday, July 31 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center. Featured award-winning authors will be Robert J. Blake, Elisa Carbone and Will Weaver. There will also be Golden Sower previews, book displays and sales and door prizes. Contact the System Office for a flyer (402-330-7884, 800-627-7884.)

Paraprofessional Section, NLA

The Para Section is accepting nominations for the Paraprofessional of the Year Award. This award is given annually to a paraprofessional who must be a member of the Paraprofessional Section of NLA and who has demonstrated outstanding service in a library setting.

The recipient will be selected on the basis of all of the following criteria:

1. Innovative programs that the nominee has worked with which have resulted in new or improved library services.
2. Exceptional volunteer work in library service or related field.
3. Exceptional use of library resources, local or otherwise.
4. Significant involvement or leadership in NLA Paraprofessional Section; i.e., holding office, member of a committee, or workshop or conference presentation.

Nominations are due on July 31 of each calendar year. A special nomination form is available. Contact Mary Geibel, Paraprofessional Section Citations Committee Chair, Nebraska Library Commission, 1200 N Street, The Atrium, Suite 120, Lincoln, NE 68508, 800-307-2665, or email: mgeibel@nlc.state.ne.us for a print copy.

Internet Filtering

(information thanks to Paul Emmerich)
CYBERSitter is one of the highly recommended Internet filtering programs. It is incompatible with some networks. After reviewing descriptions of several filters and corresponding with CYBERSitter support, the Blair Public Library decided to install the trial version of this software. The first installation proved disastrous. It went far beyond filtering Internet surfing. It disabled completely the Internet connection, canceling Internet Explorer and email. After two days of email back and forth with their support (the trial version does not offer phone support) they were told that the program is incompatible with Microsoft Proxy Client. They couldn't uninstall CYBERSitter and get back to normal because of the way the program installs itself. In order to rid the system of CYBERSitter they had to uninstall the Microsoft Proxy Client, which eliminated all network functions, then uninstall CYBERSitter, then re-install the Proxy Client. **CYBERSitter is not compatible with Microsoft Proxy Client!**

Lewis & Clark

The Plattsmouth Public Library has two Lewis and Clark traveling trunks. One trunk will travel by itself. It will cost whatever the UPS charges are. The other trunk will travel with a storyteller. The cost will be \$75.00. For more information call:
Stephen Hunt 296-4154 or
Karen Tesarek 235-3189

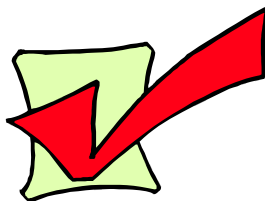


COPYCAT

For those who love the *Copycat Magazine* and for those who are on our routing list and for those who might be interested in this fun magazine beginning August 1st is will be available online only. The subscription will be \$19.95 per year. You can look at samples and be put on their mailing list at www.mycopycat.com. There will be new picture book patterns and a "print shop" with printable card and bookmarks.



Worth Checking Out



Best Audiobooks 2003—A list by *Library Journal* (February 15) choices of the best audiobooks for 2003 includes a variety of formats. Cassette, CD and MP3 plus abridged and unabridged make the selection of what to add to a library collection difficult. Annotations are included on each of the 24 books on the list. [To interlibrary loan a copy of this article, call the System Office.]

Classified & Cataloged Songs—Songstress Tori Amos released a two-disk CD and DVD collection in November entitled *Tales of a Librarian*. The songs are cataloged by Dewey decimal number. “Sweet Dreams,” for example a new song that appears to be critical of President Bush, is given the number and subject heading “973.938: History of North America—Politics of Illusion.” Visit www.tori.com to hear what Tori has to say about her new album.

Rule of 50—Nancy Pearl, author of *Book Lust: Recommended Reading for Every Mood, Moment, and Reason*, spoke at the 2004 Public Library Association Conference in Seattle. She says you should never slog through a book you’re not enjoying. She devised the Rule of 50: If you’re fifty years of age or younger, give every book you pick up to read fifty pages before you give up on it; if you’re over fifty (when the time is short, and the library is ever growing), subtract your age from 100, and the result is the number of pages you should read.

Site Seeing

www.nsls.info/resources/manual/policyman.html—From the North Suburban Library System (IL) web site, this site has tons of sample policies for the XYZ Library.

www.kidspeakonline.org/iq.html —What’s Your Censorship IQ is for kids, but is fun for everyone.

deepdiscountdvd.com —A good site to visit for discounted DVDs plus free shipping.

www.nlc.state.ne.us/nfs/librarycatalogs.html —this site has links to most of the Nebraska Public Library catalogs that are on the Internet.

www2.postcards.org/postcards/cards/0101—Fun postcards on library and books and reading themes to e-mail patrons or other librarians.

www.galegroup.com/free_resources/marketing/find_yourself —Free printable bookmarks plus marketing pieces such as thank you cards, reading records, and newsletter template.

www.grants.gov—This Department of Health & Human Services web site makes applying for a federal grant one stop to 900 programs from 26 agencies.

“Essential Software: Ten Programs Perfect for Public Libraries” — Art Buckleitner, editor of *Children’s Software Revue*, reviews 10 software program perfect for public libraries in the February issue of *School Library Journal*. Prices range from \$12 to \$69, with only three over \$30. To interlibrary loan a copy of this article, call the System Office.

New Books in the Professional Collection are *Forming and Funding Public Library Foundations* by Benjamin Goldberg. Published by the Public Library Association, a division of ALA, this 2nd edition contents covers Foundation Basics, Benefits of a Library Foundation, Forming a Foundation, Announcing a Foundation to the Public, and Funding a Foundation. A sample “Articles of Incorporation” is included in the appendix.

Follett automation users might be interested in the *MARC Authority Format Guide* published by the Follett Software Company. It covers how to create and use authority records, controlled vocabulary, data verification and SEE and SEE ALSO records. Call the System Office to borrow either book.

“We are building a stronger, wider partnership to keep our libraries open, and we are asking for your help. Please join us by becoming a vocal advocate for your library. Get to know your state and local officials, and show them the impact your library has.

In the midst of their budget debates, our government officials need to know that there is no place where the public gets more for its money than at the public library. Where else can the purchase of one book give a hundred people a chance to read that book? Where else can the purchase of six computers offer 600 people of all ages a chance to use a computer?” (From William H Gates’ speech at PLA, 2004.)

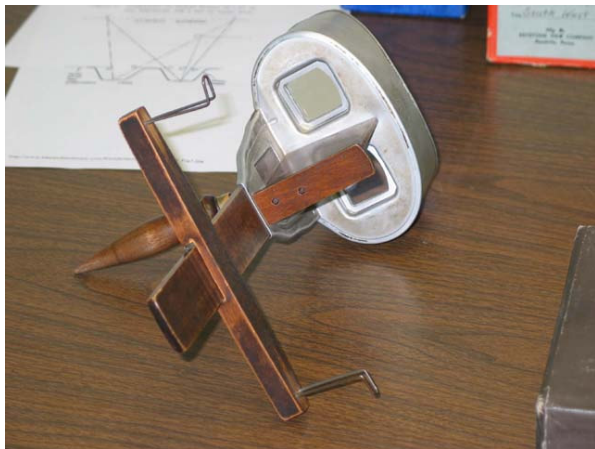
SYSTEM NEWS

Blair Public Library

Nathan Kramer, member of the Friends of the Blair Public Library, gave a presentation on stereoscopes March 30, 2004.



This was the first in a series of “Show and Tell” programs at the library. In it he described the process of stereo viewing, showed old viewers and slides, and related some of the history of stereo photography. Some of the most impressive stereo photos were from the collection at the Blair Public Library and recent photos that Nathan has made. Several members of the audience brought their own stereoscopes and collections of slides.



Bennington Public Library

Leola Bonge, director, relates this story. “Today I was one of the Woman’s Club volunteers who read to a classroom at our Elementary School. Following my reading of Happy Birthday to You (Dr. Seuss’ 100th birthday) we were having a little conversation. The kids were telling their teacher they knew me from the library and that

they go there to check out books. The teacher told them to be sure to read this summer and I did a quick commercial for our Summer Reading Program. I told them we were going to study Lewis and Clark. One child raised his hand and said, ‘Excuse me. Don’t you mean Lois and Clark?’ It hadn’t occurred to me that there might be confusion with that. Live and learn.”

Omaha Public Library

The Omaha Public Library has costumes that they are willing to loan to libraries. Some of them include Froggy, Spot the Dog, Peter Rabbit and Winnie the Pooh. Contact Judy Andrews at the Millard Branch if you are interested (402-444-4848.)

CLICK

At the last CLICK meeting a couple of web sites were mentioned as good places for children’s librarians to get information and materials as well as other helpful hints.

- www.randomhouse.com/kids/magictreehouse
- www.scoutingbear.com
- The La Vista Public Library has a buffalo die that they would be willing to loan.
- Nickle a Play on 120th and Center is generous with their coupons to use as Summer Reading Program incentives.
- Toni Reese at the Sump Memorial Library in Papillion is using donations to Heifer International as an incentive for reading this summer. Contact Toni for more information (402-597-2040.)

The next CLICK meeting will be August 2nd at the Sump Memorial Library in Papillion. We will recap Summer Reading and talk about “What’s for Fall.”

Eastern Library System says goodbye to Sandy Scott, Ashland Public Library and hello to Francis Listen, new librarian at the Hooper Public Library. Thank you Sandy for all your good work and best wishes to Francis.

MORE NEWS

DIRECT

Public library directors and the Eastern Library System administrator meet every other month to network and discuss current issues, share problems and solutions. Topics at meetings have included planning, NebraskaAccess, collection development, accreditation, Internet use policies, USA Patriot's Act, space needs, after school programs, as well as a meeting with library trustees. Meetings are held in public libraries with the host providing refreshments. Guest speakers are invited to speak on a particular subject. All public library directors in the Eastern Library System are welcome to attend. Our most recent meeting was held at the Gretna Public Library.



Lori Long, director, is proud of the new area for young adults at the Gretna Public Library.



Wendy Anderson (Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library) & Leola Bonge (Bennington Public Library) enjoying the new "Teen Space."

Ralston

Ralston's Baright Public Library has started a Nebraska Film collection of the movies that have been filmed in Nebraska. You can find these at www.nebraskaonfilm.com and click on "Filmed in Nebraska."

The library currently has 10 movies (VHS and DVD) and include:

About Schmidt
Election
The Indian Runner
Kolobos
My Antonia
Omaha (The Movie)
O Pioneers!
Paper Moon
The Private Public
....and more.

A new movie, *Assassination of Richard Nixon* is being filmed in Omaha and Fremont by a Nebraska Film Company and will be released in 2004.

The first National Worker's Day was celebrated on April 20. The Allied Professional Association of The American Library Association sponsored the day. The purpose was to recognize all library workers including librarians, support staff and others who make library service possible every day.

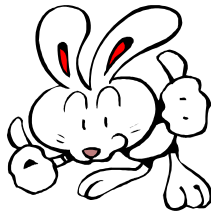
Librarians and staff at the University Library at UNO wore a button with the message "Libraries Work Because We Do" to recognize and honor everyone who provides library service to the academic community. The very attractive button was designed by UNO librarian, Marvel Maring and her husband, photographer Jeff Nedresky.

&

The Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library celebrated Libraries Worker's Day. Director, Wendy Anderson, treated the staff to Italian food and the Board of Trustees provided cookies. What a great way to show that library workers are appreciated!

A BIG Thank You

The Eastern Library System was able to offer two excellent workshops in April - Get Wired @ Your Library™ and Going Graphic - due to the generosity of these great presenters:



- Marie Reidelbach and Rozanne Cox, McGoogan Library of Medicine
- Pat Hannan, former ELS Board member
- Karen Hein, University of Nebraska at Omaha Library.

Thank you for sharing your expertise with system members.

New Regional Library System Administrator

The Northeast Library System has a new administrator, Katherine Ellerton. Kathy lives in Wayne.

New System Member

The Platteville School Library is Eastern Library System's newest member. Platteville School is in Saunders County just outside of Fremont. Kate Heineman is the media specialist. Welcome to ELS.

Library Administrator Search

Exceptional opportunity for creative, motivated M.L.S. professional to plan and direct 20-county, multi-type library system. Major emphasis on developing programs/services for small, rural public libraries. Residency within the System, valid driver's license, and extensive travel/consultation within System area required. Knowledge of technology and library software important. Public Library experience desired. \$38,000-\$43,000, plus benefits.

Reply with application letter, resume and three current work-related references (include addresses/phone numbers) to Republican Valley Library System, c/op Vicki Perrie, 2727 West 2nd Street, Hastings, NE 68901. Search committee will begin reviewing applications **July 1, 2004.**

Trustee Page

New Board Member Orientation

It is getting that time of year when new members join the library board. David Miller, State Library of Ohio Board Member, offers these suggestions on orienting new board members in his column in the *Rural Services Newsletter*. [Volume 15, Issue 2]

- A guiding principle for the orientation involves pacing of the presentation of information: Don't overwhelm the new board member with one four-hour orientation. Stretch the orientation out over three or four meetings of no more than an hour and a half a session.
- Don't rely too heavily on the person reading policy manuals, old board meeting minutes or anything else. You want the person to understand and value the role of the trustee, not simply memorize it. Involve several people in the process.
- Orientation can be a golden opportunity for the new trustee to learn about the people he or she will be working with—from the head of children's services to the reference librarian, to someone working on the circulation desk, the clerk-treasurer to the head of the library's information technology department.
- It also would be beneficial in many ways to have the current board president involved in at least one of the orientation sessions.
- Whenever possible, conduct the orientation sessions where the staff actually work, rather than always in the director's office or the board room. This way the new board member can become familiar with the physical layout of the library, as well as who works in those areas.
- When discussing board activities and duties, explain why the board made certain decisions rather than just saying what the board decided. For instance, if the board recently changed its strategic plan, give background information about how that change evolved. Was it board or staff driven? What were the pros and cons of the change the board approved?
- The orientation should also address what the new trustee can expect in the first year. How many board and committee meetings will the trustee likely be asked to attend? What committees might the person serve on? What critical issues will the board address in the coming months?

For Children's Librarians & Media Specialists



Nebraska Author—Jean Lukesh, Media Specialist at the Walnut Middle School in Grand Island, has written a textbook *The Nebraska Adventure*. Published by Gibbs Smith, it sells for \$34.95; the Teacher's Resource Package is an additional \$65. The book covers Geography, US Regions, History, Character Education, Government, and Economics.

Ten To-Do's for Successful Read-Alouds by Christine Boardman Moen (*Book Links*, March 2004) gives 10 tips for reading to students plus additional suggestions for a keeping track of the literature used. She ends the article by saying, "Reading aloud to your students can be one of the most rewarding classroom activities you can provide. It will impact your student's comprehension, vocabulary, fluency, and motivation and "build community: within the classroom." [To inter-library loan a copy of this article, call the System Office.]

If the Magic Treehouse series is popular in your library, you might want to check out their web site at www.randomhouse.com/kids/magictreehouse. Pam Ruppert, children's librarian at the Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library, recommends it highly, calling it an amazing web site with books, activities, news, information about the author, etc.

Teens and Technology— A majority of teens view technology as not only a part of life, but a way of life. The Department of Education, in collaboration with the nonprofit educational NetDay.org, recently conducted a study of 210,000 K-12 students from 3,000 schools nationwide. This survey found that:

- 83% of teens say that the loss of Internet access would have a negative effect on their schoolwork.
- 79% say that no Internet access would affect their personal lives.
- 43% of students say e-mailing friends or family is their favorite activity.
- 31% cite playing games as their favorite thing to do.
- 71% used the Internet for their last big project.
- The most widely used devices in all grades are desktop computers, cell phone, and CD burners. [Taken from *Generation Tech* by Debra Lau Whelan, *School Library Journal*, March 2004]

Library Graphics

Check these out:

www.ssdesign.com/librarypr/toolbox.html
www.libraryclipart.com/Index.html
www.galeclipart.com

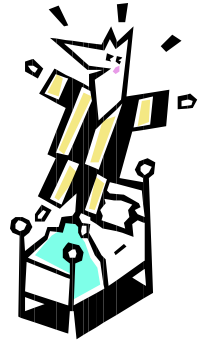
Top Ten Fantasy Books for Youth— If your young customers are looking for fantasy books, these titles are recommended by *Booklist* (April 15, 2004):

1. Bell, Hilari. *Flame*
2. Constable, Kate. *The Singer of All Songs*
3. DiCamillo, Kate. *The Tale of Despereaux*
4. Divanaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *The Conch Bearer*
5. Hoffman, Mary. *Stravaganza: City of Stars*
6. Paolini, Christopher. *Eragon*
7. Pattou, Edith. *East*
8. Rowling, J.K. *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*
9. Stroud, Jonathan. *The Amulet of Samarkand*
10. Yolen, Jane. *Sword of the Rightful King*

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT SUMP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

"Bed Time!"

By Toni Reese



- Open the magic box and let the magic of stories fill the room.
- Invite two children to each choose an item from the Nursery Rhyme Bag. We recite the nursery rhyme that goes with the item.
- Teach the sign language sign for "bed." (Place the right open hand on the right cheek, bending the head slightly to the right.)
- Read My Big Boy Bed by Eve Bunting; illustrated by Maggie Smith.
- Talk Time. Everybody gets a chance to talk, but they must raise their hands and wait their turn.
- Do fingerplay "Bedtime"

Bedtime"

Time for bed, time for bed.
Fluff up the pillow, (make fluffing motions with hands)
Lay down your head. (palms together, hands to side of face)
Pull up the blanket, (pull imaginary blanket up to chin)
Tuck it in tight. (arms down tightly against sides)
Close your eyes (close eyes)
And sleep all night. (snore)

- POETRY BREAK!! "Bouncing" found in Days Like This: A Collection of Small Poems by Simon James.

"Bouncing"

My mom,
bounce,
doesn't like it.
My dad,
bounce,
goes out of his head.
But I love to bounce,
bounce, bounce
on top of my bed.

My mom,
bounce,
calls out.
My dad,
bounce,
shouts from the hall.
But when I'm bouncing,
bouncing, bouncing,
I take no
Bounce notice at all.

- Read Froggy Goes to Bed by Jonathan London; illustrated by Frank Remkiewicz.
- Do the action rhyme "Five Little Monkeys."

Five Little Monkeys"

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed,
One fell off and bumped his head.
Momma called the doctor and the doctor said, "No more monkeys jumping on the bed!" Repeat with 4,3,2 and 1.

- Read There's an Alligator Under My Bed written and illustrated by Mercer Mayer.
- With the flannelboard, decide what you'd find in your bedroom.
- If time allows, read It's Bedtime! by Brigitte Weninger; illustrated by Alan Marks.

Toddler Story Time

by Marjorie Shaw, LaVista Public Library

Five Little Ducks

Five little ducks went out one day

Over the hills and far away.

Mother Duck said, "Quack, quack, quack!"

Four little ducks came waddling back.

Four little ducks went out one day.....

Three little ducks came waddling back.

Three little ducks went out one day.....

Two little ducks came waddling back.

Two little ducks went out one day.....

One little duck came waddling back.

One little duck went out one day.....

No little ducks came waddling back.

Sad mother duck went out one day.....

Five little ducks came waddling back.

The Happy Farm (Tune: Wheels on the Bus)

The happy little cow says, "Moo, moo, moo!"

Moo, moo, moo! Moo, moo, moo!"

The happy little cow says, "Moo moo, moo!"

All around the farm.

The happy little dog says, "Woof, woof, woof!...

The happy little mouse says "Squeak, squeak, squeak!...

The happy little hen says "Cluck, cluck, cluck!...

The happy little chick Says "Cheep, cheep, cheep!...

The happy little cat says "Meow, meow, meow!...

The happy little pig says "Oink, oink, oink!!...

The happy little sheep says "Baa, baa, baa!...

The happy little donkey says "Hee-haw-hee!...

The happy little horse Says, "Neigh, neigh, neigh!...

The happy little duck says "Quack, quack, quack...

The happy little goose says "Honk, honk, honk!...

The happy little rooster says "Cock-a-doodle-doo!...

Hungry Mr. Fox

Five little chickens sitting
in a tree

Teasing hungry Mr. Fox,

"Can't catch me! Can't catch me!"

Along comes the red fox slow as can be

And.... (Clap hands & make horrified face)

Four little chickens... 3.... 2.... 1...

Here Comes a Mouse

Here comes a mouse "Squeak, squeak, squeak!"

He is tiny and soft and his feet are pink.

He jumps on your foot and tickles your toes.

He runs to your face and kisses your nose!

Happy Farm Friends

Five happy friends playing by the door

The pig ran away and then there were four

Four happy friends sitting by a tree

The horse ran away and then there were three

Three happy friends sitting by my shoe

The cat ran away and then there were two

Two happy friends having lots of fun

The dog ran away and then there was one

One happy friend knew playtime was done

The goose flew away and then there were none.

One Little Mouse (Tune: Six Little Ducks)

One little brown and whiskery mouse

Lived in a hole in a cozy house.

When the cat came along to take a little peek,

The mouse ran away with a

Squeak, squeak, squeak!

Squeak, squeak, squeak!

Squeak, squeak, squeak!

The mouse ran away with a

Squeak, squeak, squeak!

Two Big Cows (Tune: Two Little Blackbirds)

Two big cows standing on a hill

One named Betty and one named

Bill.

Run away Betty. Run away Bill.

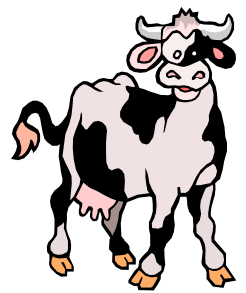
Come back Betty. Come back Bill.

Two big cows standing on a hill

One named Betty and one named

Bill.

Wake Up, Farm!
By Tresselt



EXCALIBUR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PUBLIC LIBRARIAN

The Public Library Section of the Nebraska Library Association is accepting nominations for the Excalibur Award for Outstanding Public Librarian. This award honors the career accomplishments of a public librarian who has demonstrated an outstanding record of service to his/her local library and to the library profession. The following categories suggest areas in which the nominee may have rendered significant service. Preference will be given to those nominees who have achieved excellence in more than one of these areas:

- Development of outstanding service in field(s) of expertise, e.g. reference, children's, technical, administrative.
- Involvement in statewide library service.
- Record of library leadership in local community, regional area or in the Nebraska Library Association.
- Encouragement of community/institutional support for the library.

The nominee must be a member of the Public Library Section of the Nebraska Library Association. The 2004 Nomination Committee members are: John F. Dale, (chair), Ruth Strassler and Verda Bi-lac.

Nomination Form

Please send a statement of nomination with a description of the nominee's contributions to any Excalibur Nomination Committee member. Supporting letters of nomination and other materials may also be submitted with nomination. **Deadline for nominations is August 1, 2004.**

Person Nominated_____

Library and Address_____

Telephone Number_____

Nominated By_____

Address_____

Telephone Number_____

Send nomination forms by August 1 to:

Excalibur Award Committee Chair:
John F. Dale
Lincoln City Libraries
Bennett Martin Public Library
136 S. 14th
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508]



**Eastern Library System Board Meeting
March 19, 2004
University of Nebraska, Omaha**

Present: Lupe Mier, Nina Little, Denise Grunke, Dorothy Willis, Becky Sims, Matt Rohde, Denise Lawver, Paul Emmerich, Sam McMullen, Lori Long, Kenny Oyer, Lynn Bradman, Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Arlene Wright, Marvel Maring, Rich Wyatt, Gail Formanack.

Introductions and Guests: Jan Boyer, UNO library director, welcomed the board and talked about their library, Friends group and their Afghanistan program. She also introduced several employees from UNO who joined us for the meeting. Lynn Schnoor, Scribner, was introduced as the candidate for the Board from Dodge County. Lynn Bradman has been appointed to a national committee to work on a Lewis and Clark project. Paul reported that the Blair friends group is active in many projects. Denise L. said that the Wahoo Friends group has a site on eBay selling items and donating the profits to the new library fund. Matt Rohde is a presenter at an upcoming conference. Becky Sims reported that the Offutt library is building a foreign language collection including children's materials and videos. Denise Grunke explained the West Point School's "mile of foot prints" in association with Dr. Seuss' birthday. Lupe reported that the Bellevue PL book sale was a big success with the money going to help with their technology budget; the intern suggested by Becky Pasco is working out great. Gail Formanack, Omaha Public Schools, talked about the 80 OPS schools using an evaluation process to see how students are working with information. The renovation from the Omaha Bond Issue is progressing with renovations and/or new media centers. An automation upgrade through a grant done last August has now centralized the system and helps with sharing of materials.

The minutes of the January 16, 2004, meeting were reviewed. Dorothy asked to change the CE committee report to "The continuing education committee reported on up-coming events and the Annual Meeting." Kenny moved to accept the amended report. Nina seconded. Motion carried.

The Treasurer's reports for January and February, 2004, were reviewed. They will be filed for audit.

Correspondance: Thanks you notes were received from Mary Kay Nelson, new Nebraska Library Commissioner and Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries.

Administrator's Report (see written report)

- Trustee survey – Lynn Bradman is involved with this as a project for her Phd. The survey will go out to trustees and appropriate CE training will be developed from the results.
- On August 14th the Omaha Public Library has arranged for free tickets to the Royals game for any child completing a Summer Reading Program.
- The preliminary budget outlook it a ½-1% reduction in State Aid but more funding through LSTA.
- The Nebraska Library Commission is starting a new "planning for results" program and has created a new continuing education database. They also have a wireless microphone that the systems may borrow.
- The Republican Valley Library System Administrator, Kevin Leapley, has resigned effective April 11, 2004.
- The Northeast Library System has hired Kathy Ellerton as their new administrator.
- The Regional Library Systems will be sponsoring a "50s Sock Hop" at the NLA/NEMA Fall Convention Awards Banquet.
- The Gretna Public Library held an open house for their new teen space.

Committee Reports:

Continuing Education

Dorothy reported on upcoming workshops:

- Wired MD, April 2
- Visible Library, April 27
- Basic Skills
- Annual Meeting, June 4. Rainbow Rowell from the Omaha World Herald will be the featured speaker. Other sessions will in-

clude a speaker on Afghanistan, digitization, copyright and Nebraska Access. We are working with NEMA to make this a media specialist training day also.

Technology

Paul and Sam reported that the committee met and discussed the survey and possible training opportunities. Workshops will be developed on graphics, publisher, web page design and computer management.

Nominating

Dorothy Willis and Becky Pasco will run for re-election. Denise Grunke has decided not to run. Lynn Schnoor, Scribner, will run for election. The ballots will be sent out on email or regular mail if email is not possible.

Ad Hoc Fundraising

The Wine Tasting Event had to be postponed to April 16th due to bad weather.

Ad Hoc Newsletter

Nancy reported that the newsletter is available on the System Webpage.

State Advisory Council on Libraries

- Rivkah Sass, OPL, reported on changes that need to be made.
- LB 879 – credit on state income tax returns for donations to non-profit entities.

New Business:

New system member – Platteview School Library, Fremont, Kate Heineman, librarian.

Matt moved and Denise G. seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting

May 21, 2004, Blair Public Library

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Meyer, Administrative Assistant

Local Literature Contest Winner

The Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, in partnership with Target Stores and in cooperation with Nebraska Center for the Book and Weekly Reader Corporation, is pleased to announce that a Nebraska student writer was selected as a national winner in the 2004 Letters about Literature contest.

Jackson Fisher, Lincoln, was honored for his letter to Carl Hiaasen, author of *Hoot*. State-level winners from Nebraska are:

Kelsey Springsguth, St. Libory
Molly Keran, Lincoln
Amber Hoffman, Omaha
Philip Thrailkill, North Platte
Alexander J. Lin, Lincoln

Honorable Mention:

Paige Yowell, Lincoln
Stephanie Borgia, Lincoln.

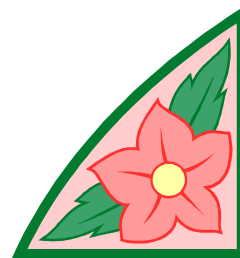
Readers in grades four through twelve wrote personal letters to authors, living or dead, from any genre—fiction or nonfiction, contemporary or classic, explaining how that authors' work changed their way of thinking about the world or themselves. Winners received cash awards at the national and state levels. Nebraska winners were honored by the governor at a ceremony at the State Capitol and received cash awards and other prizes. State winners advance to national competition and receive cash prizes.

As a national winner, Jackson Fisher will receive a Target gift card and a trip to the nation's capitol to read his letter during the National Book Festival, October 9, 2004. The next contest is expected to begin in early fall of 2004.

For more information:

www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/letters.html

Upcoming Events



- May 17**—Understanding E-metrics for Public Libraries Workshop, 9-12, Main Omaha Public Library ,
Rooms 2&3, no charge. Contact: Theresa Jehlik, 444-4803; tjehlik@omaha.lib.ne.us.
- May 20**- NLA Public Library Section Spring Meeting, Seward Public Library.
- May 21**—ELS Board Meeting, Blair Public Library, 9:30 a.m.
- May 21**—Basic Skills Organization of Materials Class, Bess Johnson Elkhorn Public Library, 10-3.
- May 25**—Reader's Advisory Workshop, (2 sessions, no charge) Abrahams Branch, Omaha Public Library.
Contact: Theresa Jehlik, 444-4803; tjehlik@omaha.lib.ne.us.
- May 28/30**—Mayhem in the Midlands 5th Annual Mystery Conference, Omaha Public Library.
For more details visit: www.omaha.lib.ne.us/mayhem.
- June 4-** ELS Annual Meeting, LaVista Public Library (see flyer this issue).
- June 26/27**—Midwest Internet Institute, Southwest High School, Lincoln. For more information
call 800-280-6218 or visit: mii.lps.org.
- July 16**— ELS Board Meeting, Bellevue Public Library.
- July 23**—We're All In This Personnel Thing Together, Aren't We Workshop? 9-3:30,
Platte River State Park. Contact: Richard Miller, 800-367-2665; rmiller@nlc.state.ne.us.
- July 26-** Database Roadshow, 9-3, John A. Stahl Library, West Pont.

For more information on any of these events, call the System Office.

*Eastern Library System
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Omaha, NE 68144*

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